



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. ARMY SOLDIER SUPPORT INSTITUTE
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APR 23 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL Soldier Support Institute (SSI) Personnel

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum # 24 - Over-the-Counter (OTC) Drugs

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to outline Over-the-Counter drug safety, use, distribution, and storage for Soldiers within the Soldier Support Institute and subordinate organizations.
2. When used properly, OTC drugs are effective for the specific symptoms to be treated IAW recommended usage. Several OTC drugs, such as Coricidin Cold and Cough, Sudafed, and others present a health risk to Soldiers when used improperly. Sometimes Soldiers abuse OTC drugs in order to obtain the same physical effects as illegal drugs. Misusing OTC drugs is extremely dangerous and has resulted in the death of Soldiers.
3. It is imperative that commanders take an aggressive stance towards promoting OTC drug safety awareness and prevention. Commanders need to monitor use of OTC drugs to ensure safety and implement safeguards to prevent their abuse, including the possible confiscation of OTC drugs if necessary. Misuse of OTC drugs is incompatible with the Army Values and presents a serious threat to health and safety, as well as good order and discipline.
4. Violators of this policy are subject to discipline under the UCMJ.
5. This policy will remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.
6. "READINESS STARTS HERE!"


ROSE A. WALKER
Colonel, AG
Commanding